

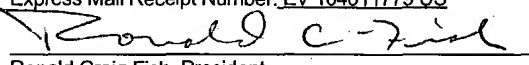
# PATENT

## ABSTRACT

A process for automatically monitoring the packet error rate of a logical channel in a cable television DOCSIS data transmission system and automatically altering the bit rate on the channel or sending a message to a cable operator recommending a change in burst profile and bit rate. The preferred embodiment of the process comprises determining the dominant noise type and SNR of the channel and selecting a set of burst profiles best adapted for the dominant noise type and selecting an initial burst profile based upon the SNR. Then the packet error rate of the channel is monitored and compared to one or more thresholds to decide whether a change in bit rate is required to bring the packet error rate within limits. If a change in bit rate is indicated, automatically selecting a new burst profile with an appropriately changed bit rate and automatically generating and sending a UCD message defining the channel's new burst profile.

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